GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1482
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2016
Controversial Statements
Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Kharge Shri Mallikarjun

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of various provocative speeches and controversial statements issued/made by certain people including those in position of authority which are running counter to the Indian values of diversity, plurality, amity, tolerance and harmony amongst different sections of society and religious groups; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against such people along with the corrective steps taken by the Government to stop such activities which pose danger to such Indian values?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)
(a) to (b) "Public Order" and "Police" are State subjects as per the provisions of the Constitution of India. The responsibility of registration and prosecution of crime including those involving provocative speeches and controversial statements, primarily rests with the respective State Governments. Details in this regard are not maintained centrally.
There are adequate provisions under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) which empower State Governments to deal with the offences relating to provocative speeches.
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To maintain communal harmony in the country, the Central Government assists the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations in a variety of ways like sharing of information, sending alert messages, sending advisories, sending Central Armed Police Forces including the composite Rapid Action Force created specially to deal with communal situations, to the concerned State Governments on specific requests. Central Government also helps the State Governments/UTs in the modernisation of the State Police Forces. Revised Guidelines to promote communal harmony have been issued to the States and Union Territories in 2008 which delineate preventive and administrative measures to be taken to maintain communal harmony. These guidelines are reiterated while sending advisories.
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